

Mexico's Christmas Posadas

TO one who has been away from the United States for a term of years the Christmas holidays there seem like a feverish rush, and the simple pleasures indulged in during the nine days of posadas in Mexico are returned to with a certain measure of relief.

A posada is an inn, and the idea pervading these festivities is that story, known to all the world, of Caesar Augustus, who, in the height of his power, wished to know the number of people who bowed beneath his scepter. In order to determine the fact he decreed that a census should be taken of all the nations composing the great Roman empire. To effect this Augustus sent twenty-four commissioners to the different parts of his world. The edict commanded that every person, rich or poor, weak or strong, should go to the place of his birth or to the original place of his family to have his or her name inscribed in the Roman registry.

Joseph and Mary, who were both of the royal house of David, went to the town of Bethlehem. They found it so full of people on the same mission that they wandered about the town for nine days seeking shelter. On the ninth day they were allowed to stay in the stable of a posada, and there the Nino Santo, or Holy Child, was born. The posadas are held for nine evenings in commemoration of those weary days.

Of course there are miserable homes where no sign of a posada is held, but Mexicans, rich and poor, are generous. No matter how dirty and ragged, every one is welcome in the churches, beautifully decorated, and at the nightly posadas held in them, though there the penatas are omitted, as the celebrations are entirely of a religious nature. To the children the penatas are very important features of the season. They



THE BABE IS PLACED IN THE MANGER.

represent men, women, goats and other animals, beautiful flowers, immense chrysanthemums, giant roses and peonies, lovely dahlias, nuns, monks in full costume and graceful musical instruments. Each figure contains an empty jar or pepata of pottery, which is hidden by the decorations or costumes of colored tissue paper, most skillfully applied. The jars are filled with goodies and unbreakable toys.

*When friends have been invited to a posada the house is decorated with evergreens and mosses, flowers and tinsel in all the rooms and corridors. In one room is the scene in the stable of Bethlehem—the stable yard and servants, the animals, trees and plants, groups of Biblical characters, little toy fountains. All that money can do to beautify the beginning of the "old, old story" is done according to the taste and means of the host and hostess. The little manger, amid soft lights and draperies, stands ready for the Nino Santo.

A procession of the guests and family forms in another part of the house, and the pilgrims, or peregrinos, march two and two, led by one who carries the Babe. Singing sweet hymns and the litany, they go through the house, winding in and out of the rooms and galleries.

At last the wanderers stop at the door of the room in which is the manger. Two voices, representing Mary and Joseph, in a wailing hymn beg to be admitted. Voices within chant a denial. Finally a voice announces who they are that plead for shelter; then the door is thrown open, and the peregrinos are allowed to enter. The Babe is placed in the manger, often by a priest, and songs of rejoicing burst forth.

The penatas are next on the programme, the details varying with the fancy of the host.

In a convenient place the penata is suspended, and the little folk, and big ones who choose to take part in the merriment, are blindfolded one at a time, turned around a time or two, then given a stick with which to break the jar if possible. So many trials, then another tries. When one succeeds the contents fall to the floor and a scramble follows to see who gets the most. In some old families there are evenings when the numerous servants partake of the joys of the posada and share in the souvenirs and refreshments provided.—Collier's Weekly.

TO THE PUBLIC!

For seven years I have served the public. During that time my business has grown continually. If my business methods had not been right, this would have been impossible. For seven years I have asked for your trade, and if you gave it to me and you think I am entitled to more of it, then I will expect it.

This is Most Positively the Only Exclusive Wholesale Liquor House in West Florida

Notwithstanding the fact that others make the same claim, I can prove what I say, and my word is good, but you need not take it—investigate for yourself. Realizing that I must continue to please you or go out of business, I ask you to select from my price list what you need in my line and I guarantee satisfaction. What more can I do?

Our Great Leader--Monogram No. 11

Remember,

That we express and boat charges on all goods over \$2.50 per gallon.
That we handle every grade of whiskey, wines and beer. We can sell you whiskey as low as \$1.50 per gallon.
That we fill all orders same day received.
That we do not compete with those dealers who have no reputation to lose.
That we do not handle imitation goods.
That we handle only genuine, reliable liquors.
That every article sold by us is guaranteed to be exactly as represented or it can be returned at our expense and money will be refunded.



THE BIG HIT!
BILL BAILEY'S BEST!
PURE OLD RYE
IT'S A STUNNER!

12 FULL QUARTS, IN A CASE.....\$10 50
24 FULL PINTS, IN A CASE.....11 00
48 FULL HALF PINTS, IN A CASE.....11 50



"OLD DICK"
TEN-YEAR-OLD
PURE RYE WHISKEY.
GOODS THAT SELL!

50 FULL QUARTS.....\$30.00
100 FULL PINTS.....31.00
200 FULL HALF PINTS.....32.00
CAN'T BE EQUALLED FOR THIS MONEY.

All orders filled on same day received. Give me a trial order; that is all I ask.



\$4.00 Per Gallon.

Coupon.

This coupon, when cut out and mailed to us with an order amounting to not less than \$4.50 is

Good For 50 cents.

Remember this when you send in your holiday order. Money saved is money made. Our goods are reliable and our prices are right.

DON'T RISK YOUR ORDERS WITH THE MANY SO-CALLED LIQUOR HOUSES YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT.

RYES

Per Gal.
Skylight XX.....\$1.50
Skylight XXX.....2.00
Navy Rye.....2.25
Yolk Valley.....2.50
Jernigan.....2.75
Royal Rose.....3.00
Diamond Buck, 10 years old.....3.50
Password F. C. B.....3.50
National Cablot.....4.00
A. M. Select Stock.....5.00
Golden Wedding, Finch's.....6.00

SOUR MASH

Anderson County.....3.50
Bonnie Brook.....5.00

MALT

Canadian Malt.....3.50
Montreal Malt.....4.00
Moog's Best Malt.....4.00



"Fit for the Gods and Good Enough for You."

"BROOKFIELD"

Six-Year-Old
Pure Rye Whiskey.

4 FULL QUARTS.....\$3.00
6 FULL QUARTS.....4.50
8 FULL QUARTS.....6.00
12 FULL QUARTS.....9.00

CORN
Tennessee.....2.00
Mountain.....1.50
Coosa River Corn.....3.50
Blackade.....3.00
North Carolina Corn.....2.75

GINS
Holland.....1.50
O. K.....2.00
Moog's Fine Old Gin.....2.50
Rose Gin.....3.00
OLD TOM GIN.....2.50
Fine Old Imported Gin.....4.00

COCKTAILS
Heublein & Bros'. Very Best.
Martini.....Per Case
Manhattan.....\$15.00

CORDIALS
Marie Brizard & Roger, Bordeaux
Anisette.....Per Bottle
Curacao.....\$1.75
Maraschino.....1.75
Creme de Menthe.....1.75

WHITE WHEAT.
Per Gallon
White Wheat Whiskey.....2.00
CANTRELL & COCHRANE.
Ginger Ale.....\$2.00
Club Soda, pints.....1.75
Assorted, Extra Fine.
Creme de Vanilla.....2.00
Creme de Rose.....2.00
Creme de Noyan.....2.00
Creme de Cacao.....2.00

COGNAC
Martelle 3*.....Per Bottle
Hennessy 3*.....2.00
Sautier 3*.....1.75

CHAMPAGNES
Moet & Chandon.
White Seal.
1 Case, 12 qts., Extra Dry.....\$33.00
1 Case, 24 pints., Extra Dry.....35.00
1 Case, Brut Imperial, 12 qts.....35.00
1 Case, Brut Imperial, 24 pints.....37.00

G. H. Mumm & Co. Extra Dry
1 Case, 12 qts.....33.00
1 Case, 24 pints.....35.00
Ripin & Co's Extra Dry
1 Case, 12 qts.....15.00
1 Case, 24 pints.....16.00

KING OF SCOTCH WHISKIES
Per Bottle
Jno. W. Crabbie's ***.....1.75
Jno. W. Crabbie's H. W.....1.50
Saunders' Mountain Dew
Scotch.....1.50

VERMOUTH.
Italian
Martini & Rossi.....Per Case
6.50

French
Noelley, Pratt & Co's.....7.50

BEERS
Casks of 10 Doz.
Indianapolis.....8.50
Budweiser.....11.00

WHITE WINES
Best California
Chateau Yquem.....\$12.00

Imported
Haute Sauterne, Maison & Freres, qts.....7.50
Haute Sauterne, S. & K., very finest, qts.....12.00
Haute Sauterne, S. & K., very finest, qts.....13.00

GINS
Robert Burnett & Co.
Per Case
Old Tom Gin, 1 case, 12 qts.....\$12.00
Old Tom Gin, 5 cases, 12 qts, ea.....11.00

RUM
Imported
Case Bottle
Jamaica.....\$15.00 1.50
St. Croix.....15.00 1.50

IMPORTED CHERRIES
Per Bottle
Cherries in Maraschino.....\$.75
Cherries in Creme de Menthe......75

IMPORTED PINEAPPLE
Pineapple in Maraschino.....1.00
Pineapple in Creme de Menthe.....1.00

MINERAL WATERS
Equal to Imported
Per Case
Bethesda Mineral Springs, qts.....5.75
Bethesda Mineral Springs, pints.....8.00
Bethesda Mineral Springs, 1/2 gal. bottles.....5.00

ALFRED MOOG,

Pensacola, Florida.